

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PANAMA 02759 231439 Z

54

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 SCEM-02 COME-00 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 NSC-10 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15

STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 RSR-01 /078 W  
----- 011662

R 231116 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7508

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 2759

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BDIS, ENRG, PN

SUBJ: PETROLEUM - ASSURANCE OF SUPPLIES TO CENTRAL AMERICA

REF: SAN SALVADOR 1936

1. PANAMA'S SOLE REFINERY, WHOLLY- OWNED TEXACO SUBSIDIARY REFINERIA PANAMA, S. A., IS NOT REPEAT NOT SUBJECT TO PRICE CONTROL REGULATIONS. GOP PRICE CONTROLS ARE APPLIED AT RETAIL LEVEL, AND PROBLEM HERE HAS BEEN INCREASINGLY TIGHT PROFIT MARGIN FOR DISTRIBUTORS ( INCLUDING TEXACO) WHO ARE CAUGHT BETWEEN RETAIL PRICE CEILING AND MOUNTING COAST OFPRODUCTS FROM REFINERY.

2. LAST RETAIL PRICE INCREASE FOR GASOLINE WAS IN APRIL, 1972, AND WAS DESCRIBED BY PETROLEUM COMPANIES AS BARELY ADEQUATE; STEEP CRUDE PRICE RISE SINCE THEN HAS CAUSED FIRMS TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL PRICE INCREASES FOR GASOLINE, DIESEL AND KEROSENE. GOP  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PANAMA 02759 231439 Z

STATED PUBLICLY LAST WEEK THAT AUTHORIZATION WOULD BE GRANTED FOR HIGHER PRICES; HOWEVER, NEW PRICE SCHEDULES ARE STILL BEING NEGOTIATED AND HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT YET BEEN ANNOUNCED.

3. IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, AND BECAUSE LOCAL TEXACO OFFICIALS HAVE NO REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES EMBASSY DOES NOT PLAN RAISE PRICE CONTROL PROBLEMS IN CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES WITH TEXACO HERE.  
SAYRE

CONFIDENTIAL  
NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 MAY 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** elyme  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973PANAMA02759  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** PANAMA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730552/aaaajpxm.tel  
**Line Count:** 73  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 SAN SALVADOR 1936  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** elyme  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <06-Feb-2002 by elyme>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980227  
**Subject:** PETROLEUM - ASSURANCE OF SUPPLIES TO CENTRAL AMERICA  
**TAGS:** BDIS, ENRG, PN, BDIS  
**To:** CARACAS  
EB  
GUATEMALA  
MANAGUA  
MEXICO  
SAN JOSE  
SAN SALVADOR

SECSTATE WASHDC  
TEGUCIGALPA

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005